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the Second Edition, he succinctly states that the method in this work aims to give, in successive chapters, the characteristic rules now applied by our courts. The book is written for the practitioner, and the chief aim is to lay the law of evidence out so flat that there may be no point which the practitioner can fail to see. The ability to steer for any particular point is greatly increased by the comprehensive index at the end of the book.

The arrangement of the book is practical in this sense ; but, after reading, the impression is that one has been through a great deal—for the order of one's going a reference to the table of contents and the index is necessary. This state of things may be satisfactory to the practitioner who has his proofs to prepare or to one who, through entire familiarity with the law of evidence, can group it around the theory which is already present in himself. To the student who demands something which he can assimilate and reproduce for himself at any time, the work is not readily suited. In justice to the author, however, a knowledge of Greenleaf, Best or Stephen is presupposed, for this single volume is not meant to be a reproduction of their works in a new form. As might be expected, the book is weak in the discussion of general principles—there being neither intention to include nor room for such matter. The principles of classification followed are "to put like with like according to the principles involved." In the absence of any well defined logical theory to be followed out, what constitutes "likeness" in classifying rests entirely in the author's discretion. The book shows a system which has a practical use ; but it is the system of a catalogue, and not of an apparent logical theory.

A valuable chapter has been added to the First Edition on the subject of "What may be proved under particular issues," and the chapter on "Practice in Admission and Rejection of Evidence" is particularly interesting to the student. The index is full and complete, but in some places there is a particularity of reference which the text itself does not warrant.

We would conclude, then, that the book accomplishes as much as the author claims for it. He says in the preface, "all we propose to do is to collate the work of the judges and put it into a concise form for the use of the profession." As a book of reference the work is of value, for the mechanical details are well worked up. For the reasons we have already stated, the work is not so satisfactory as a mainstay of the student, for the author expressly omits the necessary features of a first class text-book.

A. T. J.

ATLAS OF LEGAL MEDICINE. Illustrated. By DR. E. VON HOFMANN, Professor of Legal Medicine and Director of the Medico-Legal Institute at Vienna. Translated from the German, and edited by FREDERICK PETERSON, M. D., and ALOYSIUS O. J. KELLY, M. D. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders. 1898.

This work, an authorized translation from the German by Drs. Peterson and Kelly, is one of the famous Lehman Medicinische Handatlanen whose scientific accuracy, pictorial beauty and cheapness have combined to give them a world-wide popularity. The present volume includes fifty-six plates in colors and one hundred and ninety-three illustrations in black, all taken from actual cases seen in one of the greatest institutes of legal medicine in the world and collected by one who, until his recent death, ranked as, perhaps, the ablest living expert in his line.

It is not a pleasant book. The sensations it inspires are much like those produced by a visit to a chamber of horrors or an afternoon at the morgue. Nevertheless, the practical value of these plates, each accompanied by a detailed account of the case and the correct deduction to be drawn from similar appearances in other cases, can be judged only by those who in the courts of law must solve the problems arising from crimes against the person. For instance, the hymen in both its virgin and deflorated states is shown in some fifty varieties. Gun-shot wounds, the deformation of projectiles by contact with bone, injuries to skull and brain from various causes, burns of the skin by fire and by chemicals, and the action upon the digestive tract of irritant poisons, all these are admirably shown. Murder by stabbing and shooting, suicide by hanging in various styles, death from charcoal fumes; illustrations of these victims and many others run riot through the ghastly pages.

As has been said, the book deals only with crimes against the person; the medico-legal relations of insanity and kindred subjects find no place here. It is hardly a work that must needs grace the shelves of every practicing attorney; but for coroners, coroner's physicians and all those to whom knowledge of these matters is essential there is probably in the field of forensic medicine nothing to be compared with this.

F. M. L.